

DETAILED ACTION

The following action is in response to the amendment filed for application 10/565,474 on September 15, 2010.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Eric Hyman on October 5, 2010.

The application has been amended as follows:

In Claim 1:

on line 22, "the lay shaft" has been replaced with --a lay shaft--.

In Claim 2:

on line 2, "a lay shaft" has been replaced with --the lay shaft--.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-5, 8-9, and 11-14 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art of record fails to show or render obvious the two speed transmission as claimed, and particularly including an output shaft coaxial with the input shaft coupled in direct connection with a driveline of the marine craft; wherein the second friction clutch is operable to engage the output shaft in direct 1:1 drive with the input shaft, and the first friction clutch is operable to connect the input shaft to the output shaft via a lay shaft such that the first gear ratio other than 1:1, and including the remaining structure and controls of claim 1.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Roger L. Pang whose telephone number is 571-272-7096. The examiner can normally be reached on 5:30am to 4:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Le can be reached on 571-272-7092. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Roger L Pang/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3655

Roger L Pang
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3655

October 6, 2010